

REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1-8 and 21 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 9-17 were withdrawn from consideration and are now canceled. Claims 18-20 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application directed to claims 1-8 and 21 and a divisional application directed to claims 9-17.

1. IDS of March 18, 2004

The Examiner has indicated that the IDS of March 18, 2004, was not considered because a copy of the date-stamped receipt was not included in the resubmission of the IDS in the filing of January 4, 2006. In telephonic communications on February 1, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the IDS of March 18, 2004, would be considered if Applicants provided the date-stamped receipt.

Applicants are resubmitting the date-stamped receipt for the IDS of March 18, 2004, along with the PTO/SB/08 form listing the references to be considered. Applicants request that the Examiner consider these references and return an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08 form in the next office communications.

2. Claim Rejections and Allowed Subject Matter

Applicants have canceled rejected claims 1-8 and 21 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 18-20 have allowable subject matter and that these claims would be allowable if resubmitted in a separately filed amendment. See Advisory Action and Office Action of October 4, 2005.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Serial No. 10/624,451

Attorney Docket No.: Q75286

Applicants have rewritten claims 18-20 in independent form. Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

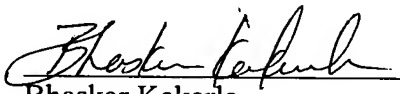
Respectfully submitted,

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